

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 08278 290303Z

ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 AID-05 COME-00 CIAE-00 L-03

NSC-05 OMB-01 PRS-01 STR-05 SS-15 /048 W

-----126429 290312Z /75

R 290049Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1844

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

UNCLAS CANBERRA 8278

STATE PASS AGRICULTURE FOR MEEKER AND NOVOTNY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, AS

SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN WHEAT SALE TO INDONESIA

1. AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD (AWB) MISSION COMPRISING ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER CLIFF SEMMLER AND BOARD MEMBER MILES BOURKE RETURNED LATE LAST WEEK FROM SOUTH EAST ASIA AFTER HAVING NEGOTIATED CONTRACT WITH INDONESIA FOR THE SUPPLY OF 400,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT FOR SHIPMENT DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1978 IN JAKARTA. INDONESIA WAS GIVEN OPTION ON ADDITIONAL 100,000 TONS, SUBJECT TO COMMERCIAL ABILITY TO SUPPLY AND PROVIDED PRICE COMPETITIVE. NEW CONTRACT IS FOR CASH, AND PROVIDES FOR THE SUPPLY OF VARIOUS CLASSES OF WHEAT, WITH A MINIMUM OF 80,000 TONS PRIME HARD OR HARD WHEAT. HOWEVER, MOST OF THE REMAINDER WILL BE AUSTRALIAN STANDARD WHITE.

2. IF INDONESIA TAKES UP THE 100,000 TONS OPTION, THE SALE OF 500,000 TONS DURING 1978 WOULD REPRESENT A SLIGHT INCREASE ON SHIPMENTS DURING 1977, WHICH NOW STAND AT ABOUT 475,000 TONS. CHAIRMAN OF AWB, SIR LESLIE PRICE, INDICATED THAT INDONESIAN WHEAT IMPORTS DURING 1977/78 WERE EXPECTED TO TOTAL ABOUT 1.1 MILLION METRIC TONS, AND THAT THEY WERE EXPECTED TO INCREASE TO ABOUT 2 MILLION TONS PER ANNUM BY 1985.

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CONSEQUENTLY, THE AWB BELIEVES THE INDONESIAN WHEAT MARKET WILL BECOME INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT TO AUSTRALIA.

3. THE MISSION ALSO VISITED SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA, BUT IT IS NOT YET KNOWN WHETHER ANY SALES WERE MADE THERE.

ALSTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Markings:**  
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